



SC Annual School
Report Card
Summary

Sandhills Middle School
LEXINGTON 4
Grades: 7-8 Enrollment: 510
Principal: Justin Nutter
Superintendent: Linda G. Lavender
Board Chair: Daniel Martin

PERFORMANCE

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on www.ed.sc.gov and www.eoc.sc.gov as well as school and school district websites. Printed versions are available from school districts upon request.

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD AND SILVER AWARD		ESEA/FEDERAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATING SYSTEM	
			General Performance	Closing the Gap	ESEA Grade	Accountability Indicator
2014	Average	Good	TBD	TBD	D	N/A
2013	Average	Good	SILVER	SILVER	F	N/A
2012	Average	Good	SILVER	N/A	B	N/A

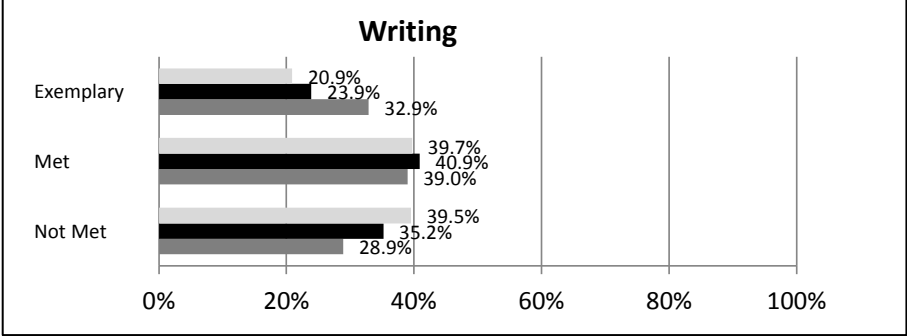
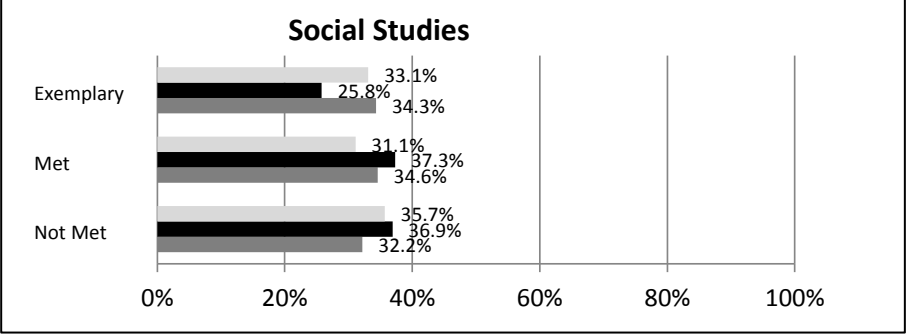
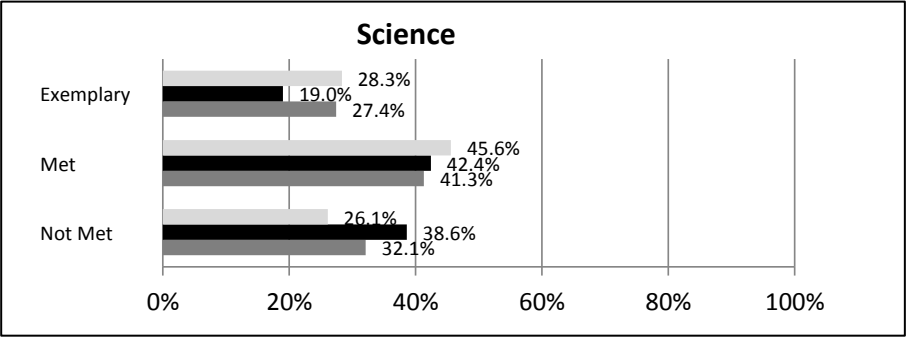
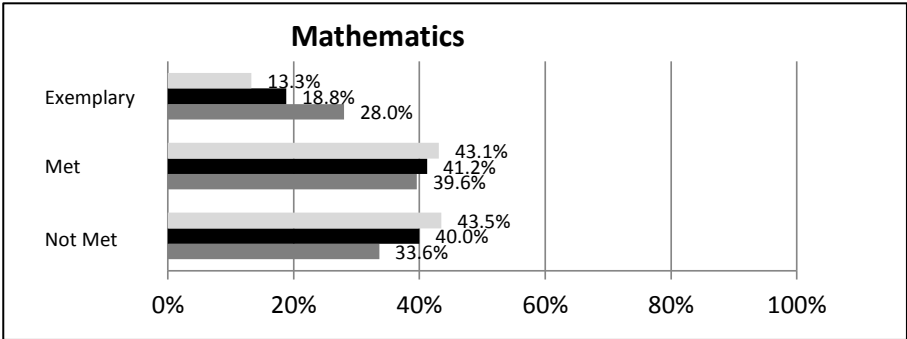
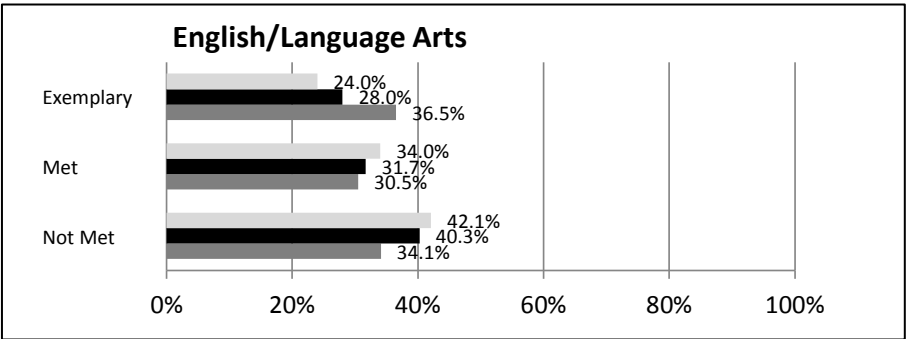
ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
0	1	44	11	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 04/27/2015. Schools with Students Like Ours are Middle Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

SC PASS PERFORMANCE

Our School Middle Schools with Students Like Ours Middle Schools Statewide

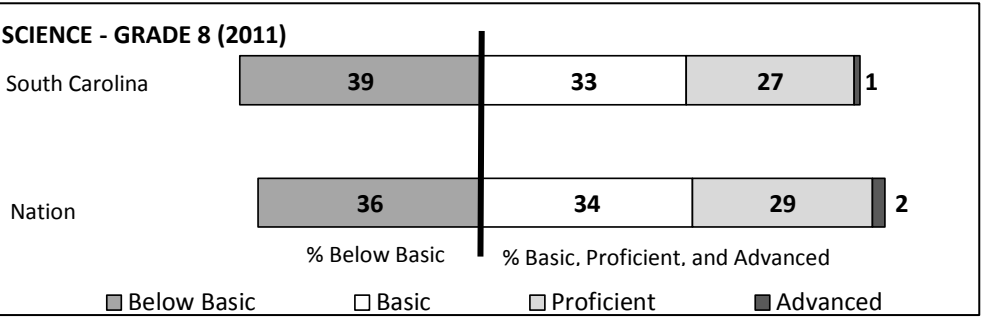
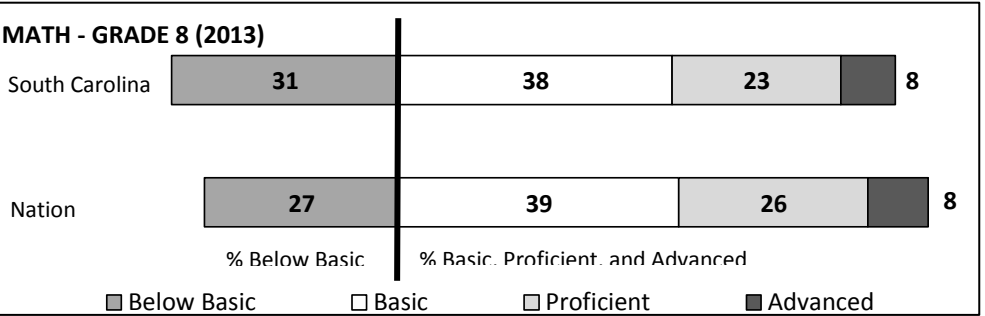
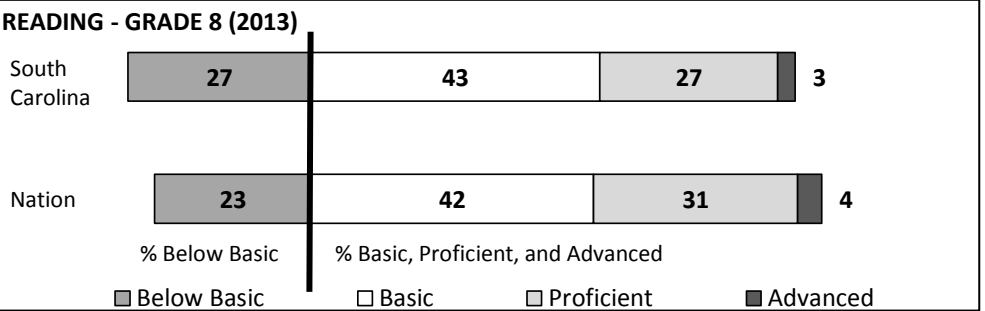


Abbreviations Key

N/A-Not Applicable N/AV-Not Available N/C-Not Collected N/R-Not Reported I/S-Insufficient Sample TBD-To Be Determined

NAEP*

*Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.



END OF COURSE TESTS - 2014

% of Students scoring 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	89.3%	97.1%
English 1	N/A	94.8%
Biology 1	N/A	N/A
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	89.3%	97.0%

SC PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

Sandhills Middle School
LEXINGTON 4

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle Schools
Students (n = 510)				
Students Enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	11.2%	Down from 42.2%	21.4%	26.0%
Retention rate	0.0%	Down from 0.2%	0.8%	0.6%
Attendance rate	95.3%	No change	96.0%	96.2%
Served by gifted and talented program	13.7%	Down from 15.0%	14.3%	19.4%
With disabilities	16.7%	Up from 16.6%	14.5%	12.8%
Older than usual for grade	2.4%	Down from 2.8%	5.5%	4.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.6%	Down from 1.4%	0.5%	0.4%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n = 29)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	58.6%	Down from 69.0%	60.5%	61.3%
Continuing contract teachers	58.6%	Down from 65.5%	72.4%	75.9%
Teachers returning from previous year	74.1%	Down from 77.5%	83.2%	85.4%
Teacher attendance rate	95.5%	Up from 95.4%	95.0%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$39,506	Down 4.7%	\$46,976	\$47,081
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	3.8%	Up from 0.0%	5.9%	5.8%
Professional development days/teacher	11.4 days	Down from 11.9 days	11.4 days	10.6 days
School				
Principal's years at school	7.0	Up from 6.0	3.5	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	29.9 to 1	Up from 29.4 to 1	20.5 to 1	21.5 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.7%	Down from 90.1%	89.7%	90.1%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	Up from 99.9%	99.1%	99.0%
Character development program	Good	No change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,542	Down 3.4%	\$7,588	\$7,616
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	51.9%	Down from 56.0%	61.9%	62.0%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	51.2%	Down from 52.0%	61.5%	61.3%
ESEA composite index score	64.1	Up from 45.8	70.2	77.9

* Length of contract = 185+ days.
**Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	27	246	38
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	63.4%	71.1%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	66.6%	72.2%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	92.6%	81.2%	59.0%

*Only students at the highest middle school grade level at this school and their parents were included.

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REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Sandhills Middle School continues to be committed to creating a learning environment which ensures student performance at the highest level.

During 2013-14, the SMS professional learning community focused on creating and refining curriculum that is rigorous, engaging, and promotes the development of skills that ensure college and career readiness. Our team utilized The Core Six: Essential Strategies for Achieving Excellence with the Common Core (Silver, Dewing & Perini, 2012) to develop our ability to challenge students with critical literacy engagements across all subjects.

Our instructional team also continued to work on deep execution of high-yield instructional strategies highlighted in FOCUS: Elevating the Essentials to Radically Improve Student Learning (Schmoker, 2011). Action research cycles were utilized to experiment with strategies and assess their impact on student achievement.

We commend our students for their outstanding performances outside the walls of SMS this year! Our SMS Band, Jazz Band and Honor Choir all received superior ratings and nine band members were selected to participate in All-Region Band. Our student athletes had a successful year as both the football team and boys basketball team participated in conference championship games. SMS students were selected to participate in the SC Governor’s School for the Arts Summer program and recognized as Junior Scholars.

SMS students continued to develop leadership and voice as early adolescents! Highlights included our Beta Club conducting a book drive for early childhood students and our Chain Links Club proactively addressing the issue of bullying. Our Project Unify team promoted a more inclusive environment through participation in Special Olympics. Student government and our SMS Ambassadors continued to actively lead school-wide assemblies, new student orientations, and extracurricular activities.

Our 2014-15 team seeks to develop and implement a vision for 21st Century curriculum, instruction, and assessment that engages students in authentic, rigorous, and integrated problem-based learning. We will focus on creating performance tasks that promote creativity, critical thinking, problem solving and enduring understanding. We will continue to emphasize the development of leadership and life skills within our students that promote creativity, collaboration, self-direction, and perseverance.

We appreciate the support of all stakeholders as we continue to establish a neighborhood where teachers, students, staff, and community combine resources to provide whatever it takes to ensure every student’s success!

Justin Nutter, Principal

Mary Kennedy, Chair School Improvement Council